Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1
Individual Application Summary

Project Name [Number]	**South Oxnard Branch Library 1024**	*Current Square Footage*	**4,000**
Applicant	**Oxnard, City of**	*Project Square Footage*	**23,000**
Operating Library Jurisdiction	**Oxnard Public Library**	*Service Area Population:*	**67,404**
Project Type	**New Library**		
Project Priority	**1st**	*Anticipated Construction Start Date:*	**9/1/2004**
Joint Use Type	**Joint Venture**		
Multipurpose?	**NO**	*Total Project Amount*	**$9,717,862**
Leased Site:	**NO**	*State Grant Amount*	**$5,785,761**

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Needs of urban and rural areas:		**[see map]**
Population growth:		**74%**
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		**Yes**
Age and condition of existing library:	**Poor Condition (= Very Good)**	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	**Outstanding**	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:	**Outstanding**	
Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:	**Outstanding**	
Overall Rating:	**Outstanding**	

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 74%

Age and Condition The existing library was built in 1989 and has not been renovated. It's a small room located in the South Oxnard Community Center. Major deficiencies of the current facility: inadequate technology infrastructure; inadequate lighting for library purposes; over-crowded conditions for both staff and public; lack of space flexibility; lack of compliance with ADA codes; lack of flexibility; and restrooms located across a courtyard.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The needs assessment process included a variety of methods for residents to provide input, including: multilingual survey forms, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and community meetings. Analysis of demographic data led to appropriate conclusions concerning library service needs.

The plan of service responds the needs assessment findings and includes specific and clearly written goals, objectives, and service indicators. K-8 student needs appear to be paramount in planning the library services. The public library will be closing the gap for services that the school districts are unable to provide, such as access to libraries outside school hours and access to computers. School district staff and student volunteers will provide staffing and homework assistance.

The building program implements the plan of service, providing spaces for the services indicated in the plan. Spatial relationships and individual spaces are well described. The needs assessment mentions the need for a meeting room for library programming. The solution is that the library entered into an agreement with the community center to utilize its large meeting room, which maximizes the amount of space on the proposed site.

Conceptual plans: The conceptual plans implement the building program requirements. Most adjacencies are met, but not all areas specified in the building program are identified on the plan (e.g., children's program area). Programmed and actual square footages for general areas are listed on the plan, but programmed square footages are not identified, forcing the reader to cross reference the building program while reviewing the plan.

Joint use agreement: Homework Center, Computer Center, & Family Literacy Center: There are two joint use agreements for this project: between the library and each of two school districts in the service area. While the joint use agreements are executed between the city and the school districts, services provided represent a much broader community base, including the library foundation and the Rotary Club as well as student volunteer tutors. The agreements represent partnerships between the library and school districts to provide needed services to their joint clientele.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology   An understanding of the need for technology to assist in solving library service needs is demonstrated throughout the planning documents. Specific technology uses include: literacy/ESL training; LAN; print management system; Internet access; computer training; a computer training center, which doubles as Internet access points during hours when not used for training; bilingual library Web site; a Web-based library catalog; online interlibrary loan services; 24/7 reference; and distance learning services.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site Site is geographically centered in the service area and is located adjacent to the Community Center, which houses a senior center, child care facility, community meeting room, and the current branch library. There are 18 schools within a 2-mile radius, and 4 are within 1/4 mile radius. The site is accessible by public and private transportation, by bicycle, and by foot. The parking "statement of understanding" between the library, recreation department, and city takes effect 7/06, but the library is estimated to be completed 4/06. Parking will be on a first come, first served basis, with no library dedicated parking, and peak use estimates show possible parking conflicts. The parking understanding may be terminated by either party.

Financial Capacity   The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.